

This young man had been active in his Scout troop, holding various positions, including assistant senior patrol leader, chaplain's aide, and junior assistant scoutmaster. Shane had applied to continue with his troop as an assistant scoutmaster. He was also a youth representative to the Brockway Borough Council.

Shane was a multi-sport letter winner at his high school. He was part of the 2009 District 9 boys basketball team champions, but he was also involved in the spring musicals and a member of the student council. He planned to attend Pennsylvania State University and continue on to law school.

He was a member of St. Tobias Roman Catholic Church of Brockway and was active with youth ministry. My thoughts and prayers are with the Horner family as they seek solace in their memories of a son who gave them so many reasons to be proud.

□ 1915

IN HONOR OF MINNESOTA'S THIRD CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT'S BLUE RIBBON SCHOOLS

(Mr. PAULSEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PAULSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate two schools in my congressional district: Our Lady of Grace in Edina and Thomas Jefferson Senior High School in Bloomington. They were both recently named 2009 National Blue Ribbon Schools. They were just two of 314 schools nationwide to receive this honor.

The Blue Ribbon Schools Program honors elementary, middle, and high schools that display superior academic achievement or demonstrate dramatic gains in student achievement.

Both of these schools are carrying on a proud tradition we have in Minnesota. Our students consistently score at the top in national assessments and tests, and our educational experience from birth to adulthood rates among the best in the Nation.

The Blue Ribbon Schools designation is one of the highest awards the school can ever receive. I congratulate the students, the teachers, the administrators, and the parents who've earned this honor for both Our Lady of Grace and Thomas Jefferson Senior High School.

THE LITTLE FELLOW FROM THE DESERT AND HIS ITCHY FINGER

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the little fellow in the desert has been at it again. Iran's usurper President Ahmadinejad that calls the Holocaust a myth has made it clear he wants nuclear weapons and intercontinental ballistic missiles to destroy Israel and

the United States. And now the tiny tyrant is in New York City spreading hate at the U.N.

A leaked document says that Iran has all the elements they need to build a nuclear weapon. They have been working with North Korea on missiles, missiles with more distance and more accuracy.

The unstable situation demands that we put a complete missile defense system in place. We are leaving ourselves and our allies vulnerable, but the administration last week scrapped our missile defense system that's based in Poland, and they also cut our radar systems in the Czech Republic. Believe it or not, this country cannot stop a missile fired at us. One would think that would be a priority.

Why are the American people left vulnerable to any tin pot totalitarian with an itchy trigger finger? The government's main job is to defend the American people, even from gun-toting little thugs who are determined to have an international shoot-out with the United States.

And that's just the way it is.

LISTEN TO OUR COMMANDERS ON THE GROUND

(Mr. WILSON of South Carolina asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, our military men and women are fighting in Afghanistan to defeat terrorists overseas and protect families here at home. Having visited my former unit, the 218th Brigade of the South Carolina Army National Guard, during their year-long deployment, I know firsthand that our servicemembers in Afghanistan are doing incredible work along with the Afghan police and army units they train.

In March, when President Obama announced his strategy for Afghanistan, I commended the President for moving forward with the plan based on the counsel of military leadership on the ground. In light of the recent reports that General Stanley McChrystal has requested additional forces, I hope we continue to heed the advice of our commanders in Afghanistan. We must provide the level of force and resources necessary to help our brave military complete their mission. We cannot allow the terrorists to establish a safe haven from which to attack America and our allies.

In conclusion, God bless our troops, and we will never forget September the 11th in the global war on terrorism.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. TITUS). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

WE NEED AN EXIT PLAN FOR AFGHANISTAN—NOT AN ESCALATION PLAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, a report written by General McChrystal, the commander of American and NATO forces in Afghanistan, was leaked to the press yesterday. In this report, General McChrystal warns that the conflict in Afghanistan "will likely result in failure" if we don't send in more troops.

The leak was an apparent attempt to put pressure on the White House and the Presidency to escalate the conflict. But, to its credit, the administration didn't go there and did not cave in.

President Obama said that he is skeptical that sending in more troops will do any good. And he said, "I'm certainly not somebody who believes in indefinite occupations of other countries."

Madam Speaker, I'm relieved that we have somebody in the White House who will think long and hard before sending America's men and women into harm's way. But the President will certainly face a lot more pressure in the coming weeks to increase troop levels. I urge him to resist the idea for three very good reasons.

First, there is no military solution in Afghanistan. We tried it for over 8 years. Our troops have fought with incredible skill and courage. But sending in more troops will only fuel anti-Americanism, and it will convince the Afghan people that the United States is an occupying force that must be resisted.

Second, poll after poll shows that the American people are overwhelmingly opposed to sending more troops to Afghanistan, and the majority now believe that the war in Afghanistan is simply not worth fighting.

Third, Madam Speaker, we cannot afford to keep pouring hundreds of billions of dollars into this conflict. We need every one of those dollars to meet our urgent domestic needs here at home. We need to use our resources to dig out of the recession, not dig into a quagmire in Afghanistan.

For all these reasons, the President and his advisers must rethink our mission in Afghanistan and look at changing our strategy.

The Rand Corporation has produced a study of extremist groups that should help us develop the right strategy. Rand studied the history of 648 extremist groups, finding that military force was effective against these groups only 7 percent of the time. Two strategies that work better were negotiated political settlements and the use of intelligence and police agencies to dismantle extremist networks. Combined, these two strategies were effective 83—83 percent of the time. That's about 12 times better than the military option.

Rand also applied its analysis to the current situation in Afghanistan and

concluded that “policing and intelligence should be the backbone of U.S. efforts” against al Qaeda in that region.

That’s why policing and intelligence are two key components of my national security plan, which is described in House Resolution 363, the Smart Security Platform for the 21st Century. My plan also emphasizes economic development, infrastructure, jobs, education, and better governance for Afghanistan.

Madam Speaker, by refusing to be rushed and sending more troops to Afghanistan, President Obama has shown that he is willing to change course. And we must change course. The American people want an exit strategy for Afghanistan, not an escalation strategy.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

REDESIGNATE THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY AS THE DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY AND MARINE CORPS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, in each Congress since 2001, I have introduced legislation aimed at giving the Marine Corps the recognition it deserves as one of the official branches of the military. This year, I introduced H.R. 24, a bill to redesignate the Department of the Navy as the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps. Then the Secretary of the Navy would be the Secretary of the Navy and the Marine Corps.

On June 25, 2009, the language of H.R. 24 was passed by the House as part of H.R. 2647, the House version of this year’s National Defense Authorization Act.

In a matter of days, Members of the Senate and House Armed Services Committee will meet to work out a final version of this bill, and the language of H.R. 24 will become law if the Senate agrees to the House position. Right now, Madam Speaker, the Senate is opposed to this language.

With the help of Senator PAT ROBERTS, a former marine who introduced S. 504, a companion bill in the Senate, and the bill’s 308 cosponsors in the House, I’m hopeful that this will be the year the Senate will support the House position and the Marine Corps will be recognized as an equal partner of the United States Navy and Marine Corps team.

During my 15 years in Congress, whenever a chief of naval operations or commandant of the Marine Corps has

come to testify before the House Armed Services Committee, I have heard that the Navy and the Marine Corps are “one fighting team.” If this is true, then why should not the team bear the name of Navy and Marine Corps?

Changing the name of the Department of the Navy to the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps is a symbolic gesture, but it is important to the team. This change has received support from at least three former Navy Secretaries, the Marine Corps League, Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Fleet Reserve Association, MarineParents.com, and many other individuals and groups.

As a Chicago Tribune editorial titled, “Step up for the Marines,” noted: “The Marines have not asked for complete autonomy. Nothing structurally needs to change in their relationship with the Navy, which has served both branches well. The Corps only asks for recognition. Having served their Nation proudly and courageously since colonial days, the leathernecks have earned a promotion.”

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In closing, Madam Speaker, I would like to show what this change could mean to the members of the United States Marine Corps, including the 41,000 marines and nearly 3,000 sailors stationed in my district at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune. On August 19, 2009, in the Jacksonville Daily News, an article titled “Navy Secretary Visits Local Troops” described Secretary Mabus’ recent visit with Camp Lejeune marines and sailors deployed to Iraq. It was touching to read about the Secretary’s visit to see firsthand the terrific work of the United States Navy and Marine Corps team in Iraq. Yet I couldn’t help but think the team’s unity would be better illustrated if the title could have read, “Secretary of the Navy and Marine Corps Visits Local Troops.”

Madam Speaker, right now I’m going to show that this is the actual news release. It says, Secretary of the Navy visits local troops, and it talks about the marines in Iraq and the Navy. If this should ever become law, what it would have said: “Navy and Marine Corps Secretary Visits Local Troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.”

Madam Speaker, before I close, I regret that the Senate does not see the importance of giving this recognition to the Marine Corps. So if I can close by saying this, as I do every night on the floor, God, please bless our men and women in uniform. God, please bless the families of our men and women in uniform. God, in your loving arms, hold the families who have given a child dying for freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq. Dear God, I ask you to please bless the President of the United States with the wisdom and courage that he will do what’s right for this country. And three times I will ask, God please, God please, God please continue to bless America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Ms. KAPTUR) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. KAPTUR addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

TAXING MEDICAL DEVICE COMPANIES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. SOUDER. In my district there is a wonderful little town of around 12,000 people called Warsaw, Indiana. It’s in Kosciusko County, a county with 100 lakes, including our biggest natural lake in the State of Indiana and many other sizable lakes. Tippecanoe, Syracuse, Webster Lake, North Webster, Big and Little Chapman as well as many other lakes. At this point I would like to insert into the RECORD from The Wall Street Journal “Sticks and Stones May Break Bones, but Warsaw, Indiana, Makes Replacements.”

[From the Wall Street Journal, Oct. 26, 2006]

STICKS AND STONES MAY BREAK BONES, BUT WARSAW, IND., MAKES REPLACEMENTS

(By Timothy Aepfel)

WARSAW, IN.—When Don Running and his two partners decided to start up a company specializing in orthopedic plates and screws to mend broken wrists two years ago, it was a given that they would set up shop here.

Silicon Valley has computers. Detroit has cars. But in orthopedic devices, the undisputed world capital is Warsaw, a city of 12,500 with a silver-domed 19th-century courthouse and pickups angled into the curb on Main Street.

Three of the world’s five largest makers of artificial joints and related surgical tools have their headquarters here amid the lakes and fields of northeastern Indiana. The local industry has grown so much that it’s now a regional force, with orthopedics companies popping up in nearby farm towns and the suburbs of Fort Wayne, about 50 miles to the east.

“How many orthopedic-implant engineers do you find walking around most places?” asks Mr. Running. “Well around here, you bump into them in the supermarket.”

Memphis, Tenn., and northern New Jersey are other industry hotspots, but none rivals Warsaw for sheer concentration. And while major orthopedics companies are looking overseas for cheaper places to produce items such as basic bone screws and metal plates, the U.S. retains a firm grip on the industry.

A big reason is that the U.S., with its population of fast-aging baby boomers, injury-prone weekend athletes and overweight people, is by far the world’s biggest market for artificial hips and knees. The U.S. represents an estimated \$14 billion of the annual spending in a global market of \$22.9 billion, according to Knowledge Enterprises Inc., a Chagrin Falls, Ohio, market research firm.

The U.S. also effectively protects manufacturers in the sector with strict regulations for devices that go inside the human body. Rather than risk problems—and crippling lawsuits—U.S. health-care providers buy their artificial joints from companies they know, which generally means buying American.

Profits are so good in the orthopedics industry that there isn’t much pressure on suppliers to shave costs by going to low-cost